



CHRA ACHRU



CANADIAN HOUSING & RENEWAL ASSOCIATION 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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A Message from our Board President



As we gather to reflect on the past year and chart our course for the future, I am filled with immense pride in the strides we have made together as an association. CHRA has been steadfast in its commitment to championing the rights of all who live in Canada, taking care to elevate the needs of underserved groups, and advocating for positive change in our communities.

In acknowledging our successes, it's important to recognize the tangible impact of our advocacy efforts. Over the past several years, our united voice has yielded substantial results through our advocacy initiatives. These resources have empowered us to further our mission and help our members enhance the lives of those they serve. We must continue to leverage this momentum and advocate tirelessly for the resources and support our communities need to thrive.

One of the most gratifying outcomes of our advocacy work in the past several years has been the enactment of Right to Housing legislation in Canada. Through our collective advocacy,

we have been instrumental in shaping policies that promote equity, dignity, and justice for all Canadians. This achievement underscores the profound impact we can have when we unite in common purpose. By fostering collaboration and mutual support for safe, affordable housing solutions that prioritize those most vulnerable to housing precarity, we can amplify our impact and achieve lasting change.

I am deeply concerned about the challenges facing provinces and regions in distress, particularly British Columbia, where many housing organizations are on the brink of closure due to rising cost pressures and chronic underfunding. It is incumbent upon us to stand in solidarity with our colleagues in these regions and offer our support in whatever capacity we can. Through targeted advocacy and collaborative action, we can provide vital assistance and ensure that no community is left behind.

As we look ahead, let us not forget the invaluable role of peer mentoring in our collective journey. By sharing knowledge, resources, and best practices, we can empower each other to reach new heights of success. Let us continue to nurture these relationships and harness the power of mentorship to drive positive change in our sector.

In 2023, the Indigenous Caucus at CHRA was instrumental in the establishment of the National Indigenous Collaborative Housing Inc. (NICH), which is now in a \$281.5 million funding delivery partnership with the Government of Canada. This partnership will serve as a pivotal first step

in the implementation of a For Indigenous, By Indigenous urban, rural, and northern (URN) Indigenous housing strategy. Beyond this initial funding, I wholeheartedly support NICH's proposal to deliver an additional \$4 billion in much-needed funding to URN Indigenous housing providers, as announced in the 2023 federal budget.

The Indigenous Caucus held its first Indigenous Innovation Forum at CHRA's Annual Congress in April 2023. This session facilitated invaluable knowledge sharing, capacity building, and community engagement among URN Indigenous housing providers. CHRA continues to support the indispensable engagement and advocacy work that NICH and the Indigenous Caucus do as we forge ahead on a path to Reconciliation.

In closing, I want to express my deepest gratitude to each and every member of the Canadian Renewal and Housing Association. Your dedication, passion, and unwavering commitment to our cause are truly inspiring. Together, we have the opportunity to shape a brighter future for all Canadians. Let us seize this moment and continue to make a difference in the lives of those we serve.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Pfoh'.

Margaret Pfoh

CHRA Board President & Chief Executive Officer, Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AHMA)

A Message from our Executive Director



When I introduce myself, I often say that I'm the lucky person who gets to be the Executive Director of CHRA. That journey started for me at the beginning of 2023 – and it has been an incredible year full of growth.

I'm lucky because I get to work for CHRA members – organizations and individuals that inspire me, teach me, and keep me humble. You're doing hard work and making a big impact in people's lives and on the prosperity of your communities. Those of us who get to support your work, like the team at CHRA, admire your creativity and resolve working against such big obstacles. We take our job seriously in leading and provoking system-wide action to create the conditions that help you achieve your goals.

I'm also lucky to work with an amazing staff team at CHRA – and we're growing. The Board and membership approved a new Strategic Plan one year ago, and one of the key goals is growth: growing our membership base, growing our value, and growing our staff team. I hope that everyone gets the opportunity at some point in their careers to work with a highly engaged, and highly committed team. I'm one of the lucky people who gets to do that every day.

We're also working to help you grow the scale of the community housing sector in Canada.

Those of us who have worked in the sector for a while have seen many reports that show

the significant cost savings that come from investment in community housing. CHRA, and our partners, asked a new question in 2023: what are the impacts to economic productivity from increasing the supply of community housing?

Deloitte Canada gave us the answer, and it's significant: increasing the market share of community by just 1.5% can improve productivity by a staggering 5.7% to 9.3%. Even more, it can add \$67 billion to \$136 billion to GDP every year – without adding to inflation. We have long known the social case for more community housing; in 2023 we added yet another argument to strengthen the economic case.

We know that we're in a housing crisis. We also know that the solution to is to, at least, double the supply of community housing. A bigger, stronger CHRA is part of that solution.

On behalf of the staff team at CHRA, thank you for being a part of this effort. Thank you for being part of our vision for growth. I count myself lucky to be part of this solution.

Ray Sullivan
Executive Director, CHRA

What we do

Advocacy

CHRA is the voice of Canada's community housing sector. We engage our members to ensure their voices are heard by federal decision-makers. Through advocacy, research, and relationship-building we work towards our shared goal that all who live in Canada have access to safe, affordable, appropriate housing.

Indigenous housing leadership

The Indigenous Caucus is the leading forum of its kind in Canada, bringing together urban, rural, and northern Indigenous housing providers to advocate for and address the unique housing-related challenges faced by Indigenous peoples.

Professional Development

CHRA administers the Housing Professionals Mentorship Program, which connects today's leaders in community housing with the leaders of tomorrow to help strengthen and build sustainability into the sector, and the Chartered Institute of Housing Canada, which is leading the way in creating educational opportunities and professional designations for housing professionals across Canada.

Knowledge sharing

Our newsletters, webinars, blog posts, and social media channels inform our members of the latest news and practical knowledge from the housing sector. Our Annual Congress on Housing and Homelessness brings together hundreds of housing sector experts, leaders, professionals, government officials, and more for three days of learning, networking, and celebrating the community housing sector.

About Us

Our vision is of a thriving housing system in Canada, where we realize the right to housing for all.

The Canadian Housing and Renewal Association was established in 1968 as a national non-profit organization dedicated to supporting and strengthening the social and non-profit housing sector. Our mission is to lead and provoke system-wide action toward the right to housing for all by serving as the national voice of the community housing sector and by creating the conditions for community housing providers to achieve their goals.

Our members

As a national membership-based organization, we represent members from every Canadian province and territory. Our members include:



Housing providers



Municipalities



Provincial and territorial housing departments



Service and support agencies



Housing associations and networks



Non-profits



Individuals

Who We Are

Our Board



Margaret Pfoh

President
Regional Director, British Columbia
Chief Executive Officer, Aboriginal Housing Management Association



Susan McGee

Vice President
Regional Director, Alberta
Executive Director, Homeward Trust



Timothy Crooks

Past President
Regional Director, Nova Scotia & PEI
Executive Director, Phoenix Youth Programs



George Cormier

Treasurer
Regional Director, New Brunswick
Managing Director, Rising Tide Community Initiatives



Justin Marchand

Director, Indigenous Communities
Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services



Michael Braithwaite

Regional Director, Ontario
CEO, Blue Door



André Castonguay

Regional Director, Quebec
Executive Director, Réseau Québécois des OSBL d'Habitation



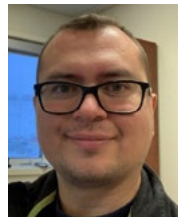
Jen Crowe

Regional Director, Newfoundland & Labrador
Senior Director of Strategy, Fund Development and External Relations, Strategic Initiatives, Choices for Youth (CFY)



James Heinrichs

Regional Director, Manitoba
Executive Director, Winnipeg Housing Rehabilitation Corporation



Juanie Pudluk

Regional Director, Nunavut, Northwest Territories and Yukon
Associate Deputy Minister, Nunavut Housing Corporation



Tyler Stewart

Regional Director, Saskatchewan
Chief Executive Officer, Stewart Properties



Leigh Bursey

Director at Large
Independent Member



Anne Demers

Director at Large
Directrice générale, Regroupement des offices D'habitation du Quebec



Shaun Simms

Director at Large
Vice President, People, Culture and Communications, Ottawa Community Housing Corporation

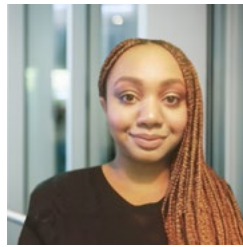
Our Staff

The 2024 CHRA team



Ray Sullivan

Executive Director



Vena Beckford

Director of Indigenous Housing Policy and Programs



Julie McNamara

Director, Programs, Partnerships & Events



Kenneth Milner

Director, Policy & Government Relations



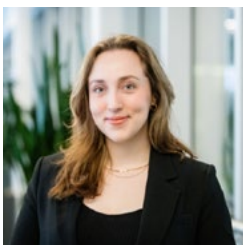
Mel Willerth

Senior Manager of Education



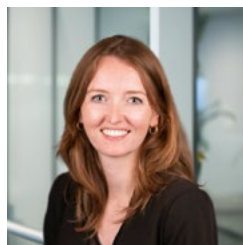
Leah Blunden

Manager, Communications



Chloe Martin

Membership & Program Coordinator



Anna Martin

Executive Coordinator

Thank you to our teammates who moved on in 2023



Kimberley Brown

Director, CHRA Indigenous Caucus



Mary Clarke

General Manager, Chartered Institute of Housing Canada



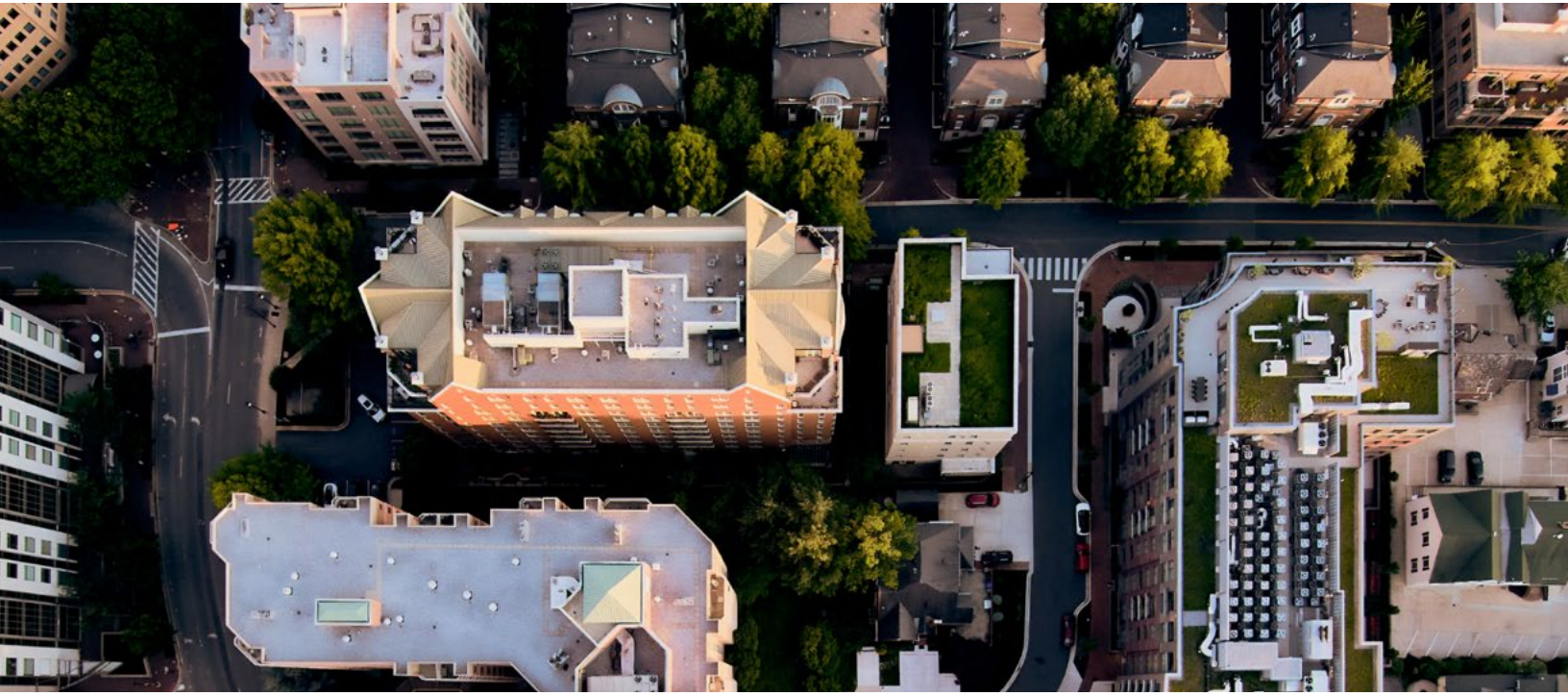
Jacob Gorenkoff

Director, Policy & Government Relations



Jane Jiang

Manager, Finance & Membership



Our 2023–2027 Strategic Plan

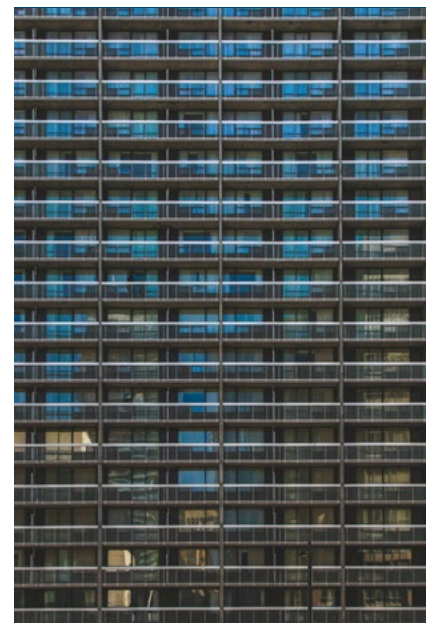
CHRA's activities are guided by a four-year Strategic Plan that is informed by the membership and approved by the Board of Directors. The Plan identifies CHRA's vision, beliefs, and key objectives over its four-year lifespan.

The 2023–2027 CHRA Strategic Plan comes at a time of great urgency in the housing sector. It situates CHRA within the broader housing system in Canada to articulate our unique role and contributions to ensuring everyone in Canada can live somewhere in security, peace, and dignity.

Our beliefs

Our beliefs as an organization guide our strategy and everything we do. These beliefs shine through in our vision, mission, and strategic goals.

- Everyone has the human right to safe, dignified, and affordable housing – a good home supports all people to achieve success and reach their full potential.
- We know housing is a core component of reconciliation, and we prioritize action toward reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.
- Governments have a duty to lead in providing access to safe, quality, and affordable housing and services beyond bricks and mortar to address diverse and unique needs.
- We believe our strength comes from the unified voice of our diverse members from across the country.
- Collaboration and partnership with key stakeholders are central to our success and impact.





Our mission

We lead and provoke system-wide action toward the right to housing for all by:

- serving as the national voice of the community housing sector; and
- creating the conditions for community housing providers to achieve their goals.

Our vision

A thriving housing system in Canada, where we realize the right to housing for all.



Our strategic goals

We will:

- Put forth a strong national advocacy voice to ensure a holistic human rights framework and guide housing funding and investment in Canada.
- Steward the next generation of housing professionals to grow and sustain the housing sector and help community housing providers achieve their goals.
- Be the go-to partner to gain expertise and collaborate on housing outcomes to foster connections and a community of practice toward housing solutions in Canada.
- Expand our member and paid service offerings to better serve our existing members, diversify our revenue sources to sustain CHRA, and grow our reach.
- Grow our membership base to strengthen our voice on national housing issues and sustain CHRA from a financial standpoint.

Our Strategic Plan in Action: Modernizing our membership program and systems

One of the goals defined in our strategic plan is to 'grow our membership base to strengthen our voice on national housing issues and sustain CHRA from a financial standpoint'.

To meet these goals, we made two big changes for 2024. We've:

- updated our membership categories and fees to make them more transparent, and
- moved to a new membership system database that will improve the renewal process and allow us to communicate members-only programs and offerings more effectively.

Advocacy

CHRA's vision is of a thriving housing system in Canada, where we realize the right to housing for all. In 2023, amid a mounting housing and affordability crisis, CHRA worked to ensure that housing continued to be a top priority for government officials.

Federal Advocacy

Budget 2023

Following a disappointing Budget 2022, CHRA worked to redefine our priorities for the 2023 federal budget. Our Recommendations to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance for Pre-Budget Consultations in Advance of the 2023 Budget outlined the following recommendations:

1. That the government support a fully funded Indigenous-governed urban, rural, and northern (URN) Indigenous Housing Centre to develop and deliver an URN Indigenous housing strategy.
2. That the government create a national property acquisition program to support community housing providers with pre-approved CMHC funding to buy existing rental properties and preserve affordability.
3. That the government increase the value of grants for the creation, repair, and renewal of affordable housing through National Housing Strategy programs to offset skyrocketing borrowing costs.

In January, ahead of budget 2023, we distilled our recommendations further, asking that Budget 2023:

- provide \$6.3 billion in funding for a national Urban, Rural and Northern (URN) Indigenous Housing Strategy
- inject an additional \$4 billion per year for the next two years into National Housing Co-Investment Fund, while simultaneously convening a study to determine how to reform and expand the National Housing Strategy to meet current and future needs.



With much of our advocacy in recent years focusing on the need for an Indigenous-led URN strategy, we were pleased to see Budget 2023 allocate \$4 billion over seven years to implementing a co-developed URN Indigenous Housing Strategy. Though the funding falls short of what is necessary to address current needs, we were encouraged to see the government make this commitment.



Fall Economic Statement

Leading up to the 2023 Fall Economic Statement, CHRA continued to push for commitments from the federal government that recognize the community housing sector as a key partner in addressing the housing crisis.

Ahead of the 2023 Fall Economic Statement, CHRA recommended that the government:

- work with the community housing sector to revitalize CMHC funding programs to ensure a stable pipeline of community housing projects,
- support a for-Indigenous, by-Indigenous urban, rural, and northern (URN) housing strategy, and recognize the National Indigenous Collaborative Housing Inc. (NICHl) as its long-term delivery partner for the \$4 billion URN Indigenous housing commitment in the 2023 federal budget,
- support an acquisition program by:
 - allocating an initial investment of \$2 billion in low-interest loans,
 - matching \$500 million in private impact investment with an interest-free public equity investment of at least \$500 million, and
 - exploring tax incentives for private rental real estate owners to sell assets to the non-profit sector, and
- create a “Team Canada” housing industrial strategy, leveraging federal spending and taxation powers, and improving intergovernmental coordination to address Canada’s affordable housing shortage.

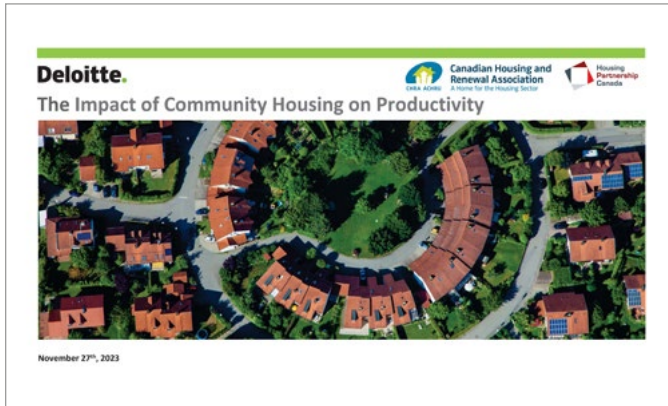
Our tireless advocacy efforts demonstrated their impact when the government announced \$1 billion for the Affordable Housing Fund (AHF) (formerly the National Housing Co-Investment Fund). Though this funding falls short of what is needed to ensure we meet our target of creating 66,700 new units of affordable housing and repairing or renewing 246,500 more, we were encouraged by the seriousness with which the government is treating the housing crisis and their understanding of the community housing sector’s ability to alleviate it.

In 2024, we will continue to support NICHl in its efforts to become the government’s partner in rolling out the \$4 billion in funding promised in Budget 2023 for housing for Indigenous peoples living in urban, rural, and northern areas. We will continue to call for the funding needed to address the disproportionate need for URN Indigenous housing, estimated at \$6.3 billion annually.

We continue to call for funding, including pre-developing funding, to ensure a stable pipeline of community housing development projects and support for a national rental preservation fund.

We are also committed to ensuring a Team Canada approach to housing and call on the government to hold a national housing summit that can provide new opportunities for communication, coordination, and collaboration between all levels of government and organizations that create and deliver housing.

Economic Study: *The Impact of Community Housing on Productivity*



In November, CHRA, Housing Partnership Canada, and our sector partners released our report, *The Impact of Community Housing on Productivity*, authored by Deloitte. The analysis in this report finds:

- There is a causal connection between the proportion of community housing within the overall housing stock and gains in economic productivity.
- Bringing Canada's community housing stock to the OECD average by 2030 would boost economic productivity by a staggering 5.7% to 9.3%.
- The economic benefit would increase GDP by an estimated \$67 billion to \$136 billion, without adding to inflation since gains in productivity boost our economy's ability to grow.
- CHRA estimates that gains to the economy will outweigh the costs within two years of hitting the target.
- The economic gains are from the productivity-enhancing benefits of having more community housing, rather than just the stimulus impact of building new homes. The impact is derived from addressing five productivity-depressing phenomena:
 - geographical mismatch between workers and jobs that are the best fit,
 - diminished human capital accumulation due to poor living conditions,
 - neighbourhood effects that impact wellbeing and opportunities,
 - diversion of income towards housing costs rather than upskilling, and
 - depressed business investment and captive employment.

Recommendations

The report provides five policy recommendations to boost community housing supply and tackle Canada's productivity problem:

1. Increase investment in community housing to boost productivity and Canada's GDP.
2. Commit to stable and predictable funding, financing, and tax incentives to build new homes and equip community housing providers with the resources to renew or acquire existing units over a long horizon.
3. Provide dedicated funding for urban, rural, and northern Indigenous housing.
4. Improve collaboration across provincial governments, municipalities, and builders to tackle the housing crisis.
5. Support Canadian innovation that builds housing more quickly, sustainably, and affordably.

CHRA continues to use this economic research to demonstrate the solid economic justification for significant investment in community housing.

Thank you to our project partners



Housing on the Hill 2023

Housing on the Hill Day 2023 was held in Ottawa on Tuesday, November 28. Over 100 delegates, government representatives, and speakers came together at our largest Hill Day ever.

Delegate teams attended 72 MP meetings to advocate for the federal government to:

- ensure a stable pipeline of community housing development projects,
- work with NICHI to create a fully funded Indigenous-governed urban, rural, and northern (URN) Indigenous housing centre that develops and delivers the URN Indigenous housing, and
- Call a national housing summit to coordinate with provinces, municipalities, the community housing sector, and developers to make development faster and less expensive.



Parliamentary and government communications

Throughout the year, CHRA sends communications and submissions to the federal government on a range of issues impacting Canada's community housing sector. In 2023, we engaged with members and sector partners to inform our government submissions that advocate for the community housing sector and its solutions to the housing crisis.

January

- Letter to the federal government outlining urgent priorities for the 2023 federal budget

March

- Letter to Minister Freeland reiterating our urgent priorities for Budget 2023

May

- Recommendations to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities (HUMA) on the Financialization of Housing



June

- Recommendations to the National Housing Council on the Financialization of Purpose-Built Rental Housing

August

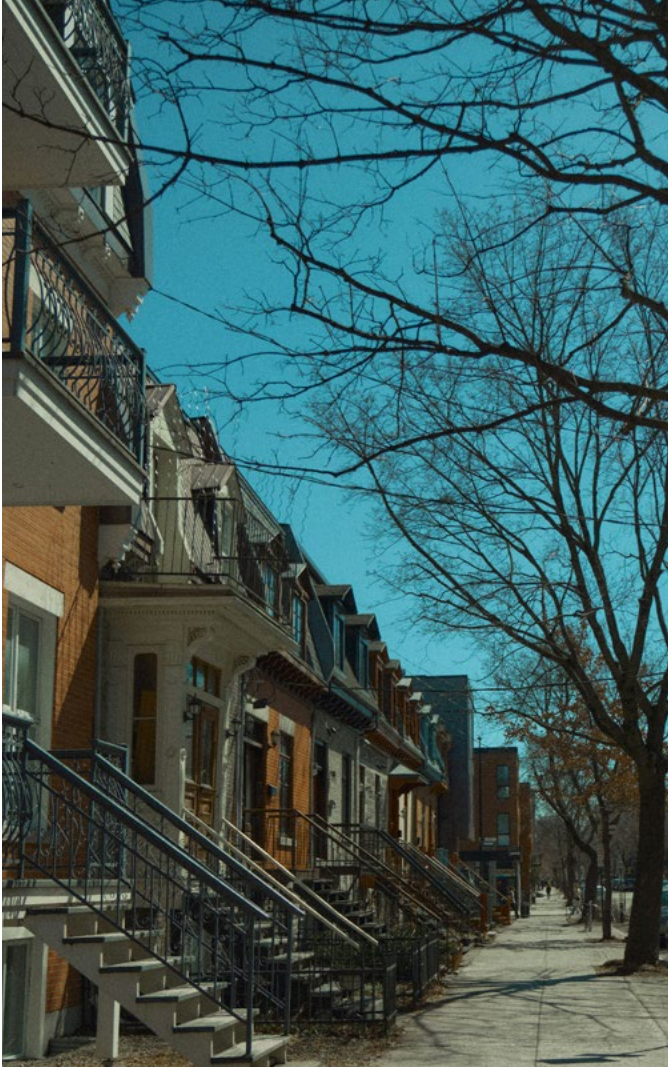
- Recommendations to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance for Pre-Budget Consultations in Advance of the 2024 Budget

September

- Letter to Minister Freeland outlining our priorities for the Fall Economic Statement

Direct advocacy with government officials

2023 saw the CHRA team increase its direct advocacy, taking 56 meetings with designated public officeholders, and other government officials.



Increasing our profile

In a year when Canada's housing crisis was top of mind for people across the country, CHRA's perspective appeared in television segments, op-eds, and articles in media sources across the country.

With the input and support of our members, CHRA will continue to act as the voice of Canada's community housing sector. We look forward to carrying our momentum into 2024.



Member engagement

We engaged with our members throughout the year to inform our advocacy work and to better represent the interests of our members.

January

- Strategic Plan survey

March

- Urban, Rural, and Northern Indigenous Housing townhall
- National Housing Strategy Funding Programs townhall

June

- National Housing Co-Investment Fund survey
- CMHC/CHRA member roundtable sessions on the National Housing Co-Investment Fund and Rental Constriction Financing Initiative

September

- Scaling up community housing townhall





Indigenous Caucus

A message from the Indigenous Caucus Working Group Chair



Together, we have made tangible progress towards ensuring housing rights for Indigenous people living in urban, rural, and northern areas.

It is imperative to acknowledge that most Indigenous people live in urban, rural, and northern areas. Indigenous rights to adequate housing can only be fully realized by a For Indigenous, By Indigenous housing strategy. This approach recognizes the unique cultural, social, and economic contexts of Indigenous peoples and ensures that housing initiatives are tailored to meet the needs of Indigenous people.

Supply is undeniably crucial, but it must also be the appropriate kind of supply. While the market can provide housing for many Indigenous folks, basic economics tells us that the free market alone will never furnish the housing necessary to address Indigenous homelessness effectively.

The \$4 billion allocation for URN Indigenous funding in Budget 2023 was welcome, but ultimately falls far short of what is needed. The Minister's National Housing Council indicates that \$63 billion is

required immediately, not to be spread out over seven years as proposed by the \$4 billion allocation.

In our pursuit of housing justice, we remain committed to upholding Indigenous rights, human rights, and women and 2SLGBTQ+ rights-based approaches. By centering these principles in our work, we not only address housing challenges but also foster inclusivity, empowerment, and dignity for all individuals and communities.

As we reflect on the achievements of 2023 and look ahead to the future, let us continue to prioritize collaboration, equity, and respect for rights in all our housing endeavors.

Miigwetch, Thank you for your unwavering dedication and support.

Justin Marchand

CHRA Board Director, Indigenous Communities
Chair of the Indigenous Caucus Working Group; and Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services

Updates

The Indigenous Housing Caucus was established in 2013 to recognize the considerable number of Indigenous-led and Indigenous-serving organizations who are members and wanted to work together for better housing for northern, rural, and urban First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples. Indigenous housing and homelessness service providers across the country face unique challenges to which the Indigenous Caucus is responding to with resourcefulness, good management, and innovation.

In 2023, the Caucus continued to advocate for a rights-based approach to housing and for a fully funded For Indigenous, By Indigenous urban, rural, and northern (URN) Indigenous housing strategy.

Establishment of NICHI



The National Urban, Rural, and Northern Indigenous Housing Coalition was officially incorporated as The National Indigenous Collaborative Housing Inc. (NICHI) in February 2023. The Caucus was proud to support NICHI in its early days as an organization and the Caucus and CHRA continue to work closely with NICHI to advance our shared priorities. In the fall, it was announced that the federal government would collaborate with NICHI to deliver \$281.5 million in initial funding for URN Indigenous housing projects.

In December 2023, the government issued a Request for Proposals to establish a For Indigenous, By Indigenous (FIBI) National Indigenous Housing Centre, to deliver upwards of \$4 billion in additional funding. The Indigenous Caucus and CHRA wholeheartedly endorse NICHI's role as the FIBI National Indigenous Housing Centre, a critical partnership that will advance Indigenous-led housing solutions.

The federal government commits \$4 billion over seven years for an URN Indigenous housing strategy

The 2023 federal budget announced a pledge of \$4 billion over seven years, beginning in 2024-25, to launch an Urban, Rural, and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy. This endeavor extends the \$4 billion earmarked in the 2022 budget to bolster housing initiatives for First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities.

While this amount falls short of the \$6.3 billion in funding needed annually to truly address the disproportionate need for URN Indigenous housing, the Caucus was encouraged by this initial funding commitment.

The first Indigenous Innovation Forum at the CHRA Congress



Combining the "Innovation Forum" and "Indigenous Caucus Day" of previous years, the 2023 Indigenous Innovation Forum welcomed upwards of 200 attendees to a day of learning and discussion about Indigenous Innovations in Housing. We were honoured to welcome a variety of Indigenous housing providers, experts, and researchers including Keynote Speaker Nikki Komaksiutiksak, Executive Director for Tunngasugit, an organization that offers front-line services to assist Inuit transitioning to life in the city, Indigenous housing researcher and expert Dr. Daniel J. Brant, and more. The Indigenous Innovation Forum will return for the 2024 Congress in Fredericton.

Knowledge Sharing & Member Engagement

2023 CHRA Congress

From April 17-20, we welcomed over 500 attendees to our 55th Annual National Congress on Housing and Homelessness in Winnipeg with our event partner the Manitoba Non-Profit Housing Association (MNPFA). This was our first in-person Congress since 2019 and the excitement was palpable as people came back together with sector colleagues, met face-to-face for the first time after months or years of virtual meetings, and engaged with the many new sector professionals who attended.

Congress events began on Monday, April 17 with Pre-Congress courses, presented in cooperation with CIH Canada. This year's courses covered a diverse set of topics important to the housing sector: *Compassion Fatigue, Burnout and Retention in Affordable Housing, The Curious Case of Housing Policy in Canada, and Using Media to Increase Your Clout in the Housing Sector.*

Congress attendees enjoyed 30 sessions on topics including innovations to help the sector realize the right to housing in Canada case studies, tools, and insights on affordable housing development, inclusive design for supportive housing, addressing discrimination in housing, refreshing the National Housing Strategy, and a stream of sessions dedicated to the interests of Manitoba-based attendees, organized by our event partners MNPFA.

We also held our first-ever Indigenous Innovation Forum on April 18. Nearly 200 attendees joined us for a day of learning and discussion about Indigenous Innovations in housing. This event was a great success, and offered a variety of sessions, valuable insights, and learning opportunities for Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants alike.



Thank you to our Congress sponsors



Housing on the Hill 2023

Housing on the Hill Day is an annual event organized by CHRA that facilitates meetings between housing professionals and Members of Parliament to discuss issues of importance to the social and non-profit housing sector.

On November 28, we hosted over 100 delegates, government representatives, and speakers as we came together at our largest Hill Day ever, to advocate for a “Team Canada” approach to solving the housing crisis.

Delegate advocacy teams attended over 70 meetings with MPs throughout the day while enjoying our programming lineup which included speakers such as the Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Sean Fraser, Federal Housing Advocate Marie-Josée Houle, and a political panel featuring Peter Fragiskatos, Liberal MP for London North Centre, Ontario, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities; Scott Aitchison, Conservative MP for Parry Sound—Muskoka; and Jenny Kwan, NDP MP for Vancouver East.



Ahead of the event on November 27, we offered an advocacy primer course *Preparing for Your MP Meetings: Politics, policymaking, and advocating for housing policy change* with CHRA’s Director of Policy & Government Relations. This optional, supplementary event helped orient more than 50 participants to CHRA’s advocacy priorities and equip them with the knowledge needed to advocate for the housing sector.

Webinars & online engagement sessions



Our webinars tackle a range of housing issues in Canada with discussions on the most relevant housing and homelessness issues and solutions. These sessions showcase housing experts as they profile leading research, projects, and promising practices. Our online member engagement sessions give CHRA members access to sector information and inform our advocacy efforts.

In 2023, we hosted 11 online sessions on topics including Indigenous housing and homelessness, the future of federal housing policy and advocacy, and community land trusts, as well as updates on and member consultations regarding government funding programs.

March

- Protecting Tenants and Preserving Housing Affordability: Case studies from community land trusts
- Town Hall: Urban, rural, and northern Indigenous housing
- Town Hall: National Housing Strategy Funding Programs
- CHRA members save with Home Depot’s “Pro Xtra” program

May

- Ask the Experts: The future of federal housing policy and advocacy

June

- Housing Assessment Resource Tools (HART): Resources to help you meet your community’s housing needs
- CMHC/Member Roundtable (two sessions)

September

- Topics in Indigenous Housing and Homelessness
- Member Engagement Session: Scaling Up Community Housing

December

- Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation Updates



Online course: The Art of Difficult Conversations: Tools and techniques for community housing

In September, we offered a two-part online course facilitated by Sharad Kerur of Resolution Pathways. This sold-out program explored the constructs, traps, and pitfalls of difficult and conflict-oriented conversations, why they go wrong, and how to approach, plan, and execute them in a more successful manner using practical tips, tools, and real-world examples. Participants gained valuable skills in managing difficult conversations, navigating conflicts, and building collaborative relationships.



The Housing Professionals Mentorship Program (HPMP) connects today's leaders in community housing with the leaders of tomorrow. Canada's community housing sector is in a period of transformation; HPMP is working to help strengthen and build sustainability into the sector.

HPMP works to strengthen leadership in the housing and homelessness sector through five priorities:

1. Building strategic networks and community
2. Developing leadership competencies
3. Igniting passion and interest in housing
4. Supporting career development
5. Enhancing knowledge around core housing themes

The Program's work is centred around leadership, community, and making the housing sector an exciting and welcoming place to build a career.

In 2023, 81 participants were matched in mentee/mentor relationships that benefit both the early career professionals and their experienced housing sector mentors. Participants enjoyed six online education learning sessions and an in-person session at the 2023 CHRA Congress in Winnipeg on topics including Reconciliation and Indigenous housing, strategic planning, building advocacy skills, and effective goal setting.

CHRA administers HPMP in partnership with Housing Partnership Canada and CIH Canada.



Testimonials

"HPMP is a great opportunity to network and become familiar with other aspects of the housing sector. Building a personal and professional relationship with my mentor has made me feel more grounded in my current role and has given me a better understanding of the external factors affecting my work."

"HPMP is a fantastic opportunity to learn about what is happening around the sector and give back to up-and-comers. I will definitely be participating again!"

Thank you to our 2023 HPMP sponsors



Chartered Institute of Housing Canada

The Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH) Canada continued its work to build capacity and encourage professionalization within the sector with its learning program. In 2023, learners worked towards:

- The Level 3 Certificate in Housing Services, which enables learners to be effective housing practitioners and provides them with a broader understanding of how the organization and others in the housing industry work.
- The Level 5 Diploma in Housing, which provides individuals with knowledge and understanding across key areas of housing policy and practice at a recognized professional standard, preparing learners with the knowledge and skills required to perform in a senior management role.
- **Launched in 2023:** The Experienced Professional Route to chartered membership, designed for seasoned housing professionals seeking to demonstrate their leadership and change management capabilities. This program acknowledges professional competence and prior qualifications while emphasizing the importance of staying updated on housing issues.

CIH membership grew in 2023 and now includes a total of 197 members from across Canada.

CIH Canada also celebrated 30 graduates that successfully completed their qualifications in 2023. Congratulations to all the successful learners!



Housing and Homelessness Study Tour

In May of 2023, CIH Canada and Nick Falvo Consulting went on a three-day homelessness study tour in New York City. The tour engaged 30 participants from diverse backgrounds including the non-profit sector, government, law enforcement, and academia. Visiting six sites, the study revealed critical insights into the homelessness crisis in New York City, including the magnitude of the homeless population, legal rights to shelter, effectiveness of low-barrier shelters like Safe Havens, programmatic approaches such as the Bergen County Housing Center, privacy considerations in emergency facilities, the importance of mixed-income housing solutions, and innovative initiatives like partnering with public libraries and engaging with law enforcement and corrections sectors.



Staffing change

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Mary Clarke for her exceptional dedication and leadership during her tenure as General Manager of CIH Canada. Over the past two years, Mary has demonstrated unwavering commitment and has played a pivotal role in advancing our organization's mission. Her hard work and dedication have made a significant impact, and we are immensely grateful for her contributions. As we bid farewell to Mary, we were excited to welcome Mel Willerth as the new CHRA Senior Manager of Education (overseeing CIH Canada) in November 2023. Mel brings with them a wealth of experience in non-profit organizations, advocacy, and post-secondary education, making them a perfect fit for this role. With an Honours Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and a Master of Arts in Communication and Media Studies from the University of Calgary, Mel is passionate about ensuring that all housing professionals have the necessary skills and knowledge to excel in their roles. We are thrilled to have Mel join our team and look forward to their valuable contributions to our organization's educational initiatives.



Thank you to the committed group of people who lead CIH Canada:

Jill Atkey

Board Member, British Columbia, CIHCM

Leigh Bursey

Board Member, CIHCHP

Angela Cooke

Education Committee Member, British Columbia, CIHCM

Colin Doylend

Board and Finance Committee Member, British Columbia, CertCIH

Lori-Anne Gagne

Board Member, Ontario, CIHCM

Stephen Giustizia

Education Committee Member, Ontario, CIHCM

Stacey Houston

Education Committee Member, Alberta, CIHM

Geraldine Howley

UK Board Member, United Kingdom, CIHCM

Wendy Pollard

Board and Education Committee Member, Quebec, CIHCM

Ishbel Solvason

Board and Finance Committee Chair, Ontario, CIHCM

Paul Tennant

Board Member, United Kingdom, CIHCM

Tim Ward

Board and Finance Committee Member, Alberta, CIHCM

Mel Willerth

Staff, CIH/CHRA

2023 CHRA National Awards

CHRA's National Awards honour the leaders and innovators of the community housing and homelessness sector, highlighting the exceptional people and programs that go above and beyond to ensure a safe and affordable home for all. The Awards draw attention to the exceptional achievements of the community housing sector on a national stage and inspire positive change in the housing sector.

The 2023 National Awards recipients were honoured on April 19 2023, during the President's Reception and Dinner at the CHRA National Congress in Winnipeg.

Community Builder Award

Organization

Aryze Developments



Located in Victoria, BC, Aryze Developments is an integrated home building, development, and urban planning team. They are committed to increasing the quality of homes and communities by providing housing for all citizens that reflect the diverse needs across the housing spectrum.

One of Aryze's proudest accomplishments as a community builder is Tiny Homes Village - a transitional housing solution that used repurposed shipping containers to provide high-quality homes for previously unhoused residents. With support from more than 580 citizens, local businesses and trade partners, Aryze crowdfunded more than \$550,000 and constructed the homes in less than six months.

Aryze understands that fostering community is about more than simply building homes and partners with like-minded organizations to advocate for healthy, inclusive, sustainable cities that make room for everyone.

Individual

Carolyn Ryan of Manitoba Housing



Carolyn is a true public servant, using her expertise, dedication, and her considerable skills as a consensus builder to serve Manitobans. She was the provincial lead in the development of the COVID-19 response for Manitoba's homeless population and is currently leading the development of Manitoba's provincial homelessness strategy.

Carolyn leads by example through her compassion, actions, and commitment, as well as her ability to bring parties together to arrive at solutions that benefit those who need them most. She supports initiatives that build housing sector capacity, she helps new organizations find their footing, and fosters connections across the sector.

As one of Carolyn's colleagues put it "while she supports the building of community housing, her real skill is building bridges".

Leadership Award

Cathy Crowe



Cathy is a Street Nurse, educator, and social justice activist, who uses her voice as a writer and filmmaker to bring the issues that affect homeless people to the public eye.

Cathy works with colleagues and fellow activists to foster coalitions and advocacy initiatives. She co-founded the Toronto Disaster Relief Committee, which declared homelessness a National Disaster in 1998 – an act that ultimately led to the creation of National Housing Day.

Cathy has received numerous awards and honours, including the Order of Canada in 2018. Her memoir, “A Knapsack Full of Dreams: Memoirs of a Street Nurse”, was published in 2019.

Cathy’s motto is Advocacy + Activism = Action. Her fight for the right to shelter is an inspiration to those who work in the housing and homelessness sector.

The Leadership Award recognizes an individual who has shown leadership in improving housing in Canada through program innovation, policy change, outreach, and/or advocacy efforts.



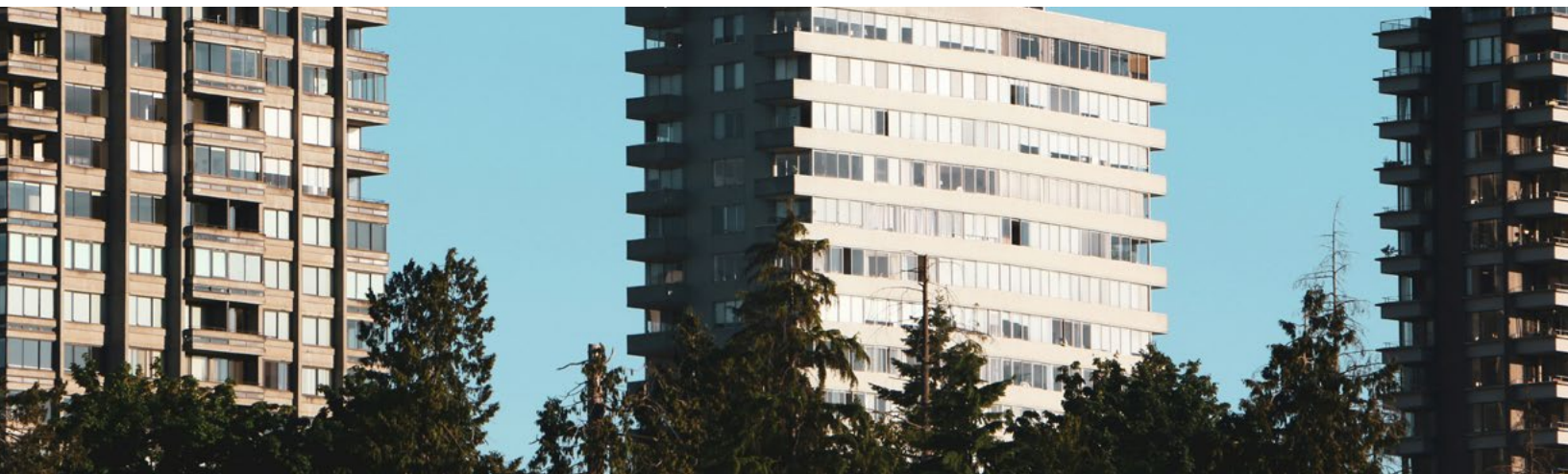


2023 Financial Statement

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS	2023	2022
Revenues		
Membership fees	\$ 301,598	\$ 369,588
Sponsor/partnership funding	142,515	10,000
Programs revenue		
Registration fees	410,299	160,079
Grants	175,000	130,840
Sponsorship/advertising	397,200	293,250
Management Services	50,000	50,000
Investment income	10,602	7,332
Miscellaneous revenue	226	8,625
	\$ 1,487,440	\$ 1,029,714

Expenses	2023	2022
Salaries, benefits and contractuels	\$ 749,005	\$ 642,411
Programs		
Events and facilities	273,287	54,291
Programming	225,111	202,661
Travel	36,665	-
Communications and media	36,177	7,574
Bursaries	9,500	-
Administration		
Governance - Board of Directors	73,794	15,123
Occupancy costs	42,376	37,436
Communication and marketing	20,357	39,756
Travel and hospitality	19,988	8,996
Telecommunications	14,532	4,771
Service charges	13,289	7,051
Audit fees	10,500	9,400
Professional fees and insurance	9,358	4,957
IT services	8,706	6,183
Conference and membership fees	4,990	3,050
Professional development	4,605	695
Sponsorship and donation	3,000	3,000
Office supplies	2,912	2,894
Equipment rental	2,901	6,327
Bad debt	-	928
Amortization of capital assets	2,283	2,188
	1,563,336	1,059,692
Deficiency of revenues over expenses	\$ (75,896)	\$ (29,978)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	2023	2022
Assets		
Cash	\$ 269,835	\$ 152,133
Accounts receivable	101,386	51,710
Contribution receivable	49,417	71,760
Term deposits, 3.40% to 4.00%, maturing between May and November 2024	219,322	56,848
Prepaid expenses	155,440	172,918
	795,400	505,369
Term deposits	-	155,711
Capital Assets	-	2,283
	-	157,994
	\$ 795,400	\$ 663,363
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 235,022	\$ 68,999
Deferred revenues (Note 5)	45,145	3,235
	280,167	72,234
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	365,233	438,846
Invested in capital assets	-	2,283
Stabilization Reserve	150,000	150,000
	\$ 795,400	\$ 663,363



Our Members

3DPHC – 3D Printed Homes Corporation • A Way Home Canada • Aboriginal Housing Management Association • Aboriginal Housing Society of Prince George • Aboriginal Labour Force • Aboriginal Mothers Center • Action-Habitation de Québec • Action-Logement • Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario (ACTO) • Affordable Housing Association of Nova Scotia • Affordable Housing Societies • Ahmadiyya Abode of Peace Inc. • Alan Cavell • Alberta Network of Public Housing Agencies • Alberta Rural Development Network • Alberta Seniors & Communities Housing Association • All Saints Homes for Tomorrow Society • Alliance des corporations d'habitations abordables du territoire du Grand Montréal (ACHAT) • Antigonish Affordable Housing Society • Antonio Perez • Aqanttanam Housing Society • Aryze Developments • Association des groupes de ressources techniques de Québec • Atria Women's Resource Society • Austin Parisien Management Consulting • Ballenas Housing Society • Barrie Municipal Non Profit Housing • BC Housing • BC Society of Transition Houses • Bessant Pelech Associates Inc. 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Inc. • Social Housing Registry of Ottawa • Société d'habitation du Québec • Society of Saint Vincent de Paul of Vancouver Island • SOLIDES • St. Jude Community Homes • Stella's Circle • Steve Pomeroy • Stewart Properties • Streets Alive Family Support Association • Surrey Place – Developmental Services Ontario • Tabitha Marie Geraghty • Terra Housing Consultants • Tewegan Housing for Aboriginal Youth • The Agency for Co-operative Housing • The District Municipality of Muskoka • The Elizabeth Fry Society of Greater Vancouver • The Lighthouse Supported Living Inc. • The Neighbourhood Land Trust • The Prince Edward County Affordable Housing Corporation • The Sinneave Family Foundation • The University of British Columbia • Threshold Housing Society • Thunder Woman Healing Lodge Society • Tim Welch • Toronto Alliance to End Homelessness • Toronto Community Housing Corporation • Toronto Downtown West BIA • Town of Collingwood • Treaty 7 Urban Indian Housing Authority • Trellis Society for Community Impact • Turning Point Housing Society • University of Waterloo • Uquutaq Society • UTILE • Vancity Community Foundation • Vancouver Aboriginal Friendship Centre Society • Vancouver Native Housing Society • Vernon Native Housing Society • Victoria Cool Aid Society • Victoria Park Community Homes Inc. • Ville de Montreal • Vink Consultings • Wachiy Friendship Centre Society • Wigwamen Incorporated • Windsor Essex Community Housing Corp. • Winnipeg Housing • Women's Shelters Canada • Wood Buffalo Wellness Society • Woodgreen Community Housing Inc. • YMCA of Northern Alberta • York Region • Youth Services Bureau • Youthe Services Bureau • YWCA Banff •



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